

Uncle Peter's Tin Box

By HAROLD SINCLAIRE

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"I'll get even with him—if it takes twenty years I'll have it out with Mark Dawson!"

The owner of Hillside farm spoke the words venomously. His face was clenched, his face distorted, and youth, prosperity and the possession of broad, fruitful acres seemed to have no force to subdue his angry mood.

"If I may make a suggestion," observed his insinuating companion, Lawyer Dole, "I don't think I'd make my life miserable over a trifle. Why, what more do you want than what you've got, Tom Lacey? The favored heir of old Peter Babson married to the handsomest girl in the district—"

"Bah!" shouted the other ragefully. "What is she or the money to me against the only girl I ever loved? I tell you, Dole, I was robbed of Lella Dallas. When that handsome wife of mine, as you call her, gets in her tantrums, and I realize what I've lost, it about sets me wild. Here Dawson has settled down right under my nose, fairly flaunting his success in winning Lella."

"I reckon it was the only place he had to settle down in, Lacey. The girl liked him best, and naturally married him. They're poor as church mice."

"I'll drive the Dawsons out of the neighborhood!" muttered Lacey darkly. For a young man with fairly growing prospects in life, Tom Lacey was in an unthankful and dangerous mood. He had nursed his one grievance till it began to tinge everything he did with somber and tragic gloom. He and Mark were cousins. They had both courted pretty Lella Dallas. Certainly the little lady had given Tom no cause to suppose she favored him. When she married the man of her choice, however, Tom felt bitterly wronged. He refused to even notice the happy pair.

Old Peter left Tom the big home farm and some comfortable investments. To the surprise of everybody, all that Mark was awarded was "the River lot," with all thereon, "the will read." "All thereon" was little indeed—a broken-down cottage, a few farm implements, and a great gnarled apple-tree past all bearing and dead at the top.

Tom Lacey had uttered no idle passing threat to Lawyer Dole. It was early spring when he made it. He had men in his employ mean and unscrupulous as himself. They became willing tools in his schemes of revenge. Its result was made very patent to brave, patient Mark and his loving helpmate, Lella, at harvest time.

It was evening tide, and husband and wife sat on a bench under the old apple tree.

"It's pretty bad, Mark. I must confess," she was saying. "The whole work of a season gone! Don't fret about it, dear. We will begin all over again."

Early in the spring at seeding time some one had tampered with the well-tilled fields. Some one had put in mustard seed and that of a taggy weed, and had choked out the wheat, oats, buckwheat and rye.

"The whole lot isn't good enough for bedding," said Mark. "I've got a chance to chop wood in the forest half the winter. That will keep the wolf from the door till springtime, anyhow."

"Yes, dear," said Lella soothingly, "and I can help out with some sewing. Speaking of chopping. It might not be a bad idea to get the old apple tree out of the way."

"I suppose it will topple over some stormy night and hit the house if we don't," replied Mark.

Mark tried not to think hard of dead Uncle Peter. Still, he had reason to expect a better share in the estate than he had received. More than once that relative had shown him a small tin box filled with a great heap of stored-up banknotes, with his own name scratched upon the box.

"The snow is too deep to work in the woods today," said Mark to Lella one bleak wintry morning. "I believe I'll tackle the old apple tree."

"Yes, the fuel supply is somewhat low," answered Lella. Finally there was a crash.

Lella rushed to the door just as Mark came tearing into the room. "Oh, Lella!" he gasped. "See! The box—the tin box. My name scratched on the cover. Exactly the one Uncle Peter showed me so many times!"

In suspense and wonder Lella stared as the box was placed on the table. Inside was a letter telling all about it, and—banknotes! banknotes! banknotes!

Uncle Peter had selected a queer hiding place for the little fortune he had put by in ready cash for his young nephew. The inclosed letter settled all questions as to legal ownership.

"Why, we are rich!" breathed Lella, marvelingly.

"I always was rich with such a treasure as you; and now," said Mark tenderly, "with the money to give you luxury as well as comfort, I wouldn't trade with a multi-millionaire."

Mistaken Identity.

Mother (after visitor had gone)—Bobby, what on earth made you stick out your tongue at our pastor? Oh, dear!

Bobby—Why, mawver, I just showed it to him. He said, "Little man, how do you feel?"—and I thort he was a doctor!—From Life.

BIRDS AID GREATLY IN WAR ON INSECTS

Of 27 Species Examined 25 Were Grasshopper Eaters.

Farmer Should Form Defensive Alliance with Aerial Cavalry to Obtain Necessary Protection Against Enemies.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Special investigations to find how far the various bird species aid mankind in his perpetual war on insect enemies are being carried on by the bureau of biological survey, United States Department of Agriculture. In the western states the grasshopper is particularly troublesome, so far as the farmer and the ranch owner are concerned. Specialists found that of 27 species of birds examined 25 were grasshopper eaters. In 19 of the species all of the individuals collected had given grasshoppers place on their menu. The birds having the best records were the lark sparrows, meadowlarks, Franklin gulls, Arkansas kingbird, crow blackbird, and the common kingbird.

Probably there are not birds enough in the country to clean up a full-



Meadowlark.

strength invasion of grasshoppers such as the western farmers have come to dread. It is said, but the birds assist materially in the efforts made by man to control the pest.

Specialists say that poisoning campaigns are among the best weapons used against the grasshopper. From time to time reports are sent in, saying that many birds have fallen victims to the poisoned mixtures placed for the insects. Such charges were associated with the kypsy-moth spraying campaign in New England and with the laying of poisoned mashes for cut worms and other insects. Careful observation, made by experts, shows that the bird losses from such causes are insignificant. Some birds, it is said, are not harmed at all by the presence of poison placed for insects or vermin; the quail in California were not harmed by the baits that were set out to kill ground squirrels—though the campaign was a general one and was conducted with much intensity. In the Dakotas a few birds succumbed to the arsenic mashes placed for grasshoppers, but the number killed was so slight as to be of no consequence, it is said.

By killing stray cats and chasing off unscrupulous hunters the farmer can become a party to a sort of defensive alliance with his birds, so that when his crops need protection against insect enemies he will have a squadron of aerial cavalry to help him repulse the raid, specialists say.

SEED-TESTING PLEASES BOY

Work is Admirably Adapted for School Room—Equipment Necessary is Inexpensive.

In order to prevent Jack from becoming a dull boy as a result of all work and no play, many hours can be spent profitably in the schoolroom by forgetting books and lessons for a time and testing seeds. Seed testing is a diversion that is as practical as it is enjoyable. It is admirably adapted for exercise work in every schoolroom whether or not a systematic course in agriculture is given. Little equipment is necessary. A set of samples of farm seed to be studied by the pupils' parents, to determine the percentage of germination and the extent of impurities in the seed, offers a means of connecting the school with the home with benefits to both. Impurity tests can be made by an examination with a magnifying glass. The only apparatus necessary for germination tests of small seed consists of two plates, and a piece of blotting paper. Write to the United States Department of Agriculture for Farmers' Bulletin 428, "Testing Farm Seeds in the Home and in the Rural School." It gives complete directions.

SALT IMPROVES COWPEA HAY

Enhances Palatability and Where Crop is Not Entirely Cured Prevents Fermentation.

The use of salt has been recommended by many successful growers in the mowing of cowpea hay. Although not essential, undoubtedly the hay is improved in palatability, and it may, in the case of hay not entirely cured, assist in preventing fermentation. About eight quarts of salt are used to one ton of hay.

PAINTSVILLE

Geo. W. Daniels Dead.

Geo. W. Daniels, one of the county's best known men, died at his home near Mingo Tuesday morning. He had been in poor health for a number of years and his death was not unexpected. He served one term as jailer of Johnson county and is a member of one of the largest families in the county. He was an old Union soldier.

Operated on for Appendicitis.

Manuel Fitzpatrick was operated on at the Paintsville Hospital last Saturday for appendicitis and is now on the road to recovery. His condition was serious at first and his friends were alarmed.

Paintsville Woman's Club.

The Paintsville Woman's Club met at the home of Mrs. H. R. Short on Thursday evening. This being the time for election of officers, the following ladies were chosen to serve the ensuing year: Miss May Stafford, president; Miss Sue Mason, vice-president; Miss Blanche Ward, recording secretary; Mrs. James W. Turner, treasurer. All the officers were re-elected with the exception of Miss Stella Atkinson who resigned as recording secretary.

Whiskey Destroyed.

Deputy Sheriff Sam Watkins destroyed six quarts of whiskey last Thursday, emptying same in the sewer on Main street in Paintsville. The booze was taken in a raid a few days ago. There is entirely too much booze being made in this county and sold. Strict enforcement of the law is the only cure.

Revival Closed.

The revival which has been in progress at the M. E. Church for the past two weeks, closed Sunday evening. The preaching and the music were good. The meeting was much enjoyed by the good people of Paintsville. Rev. Tomlin is a splendid revivalist and preached some fine sermons.

Local and Personal.

Mrs. Julia Wells and Mrs. V. D. Spilane and little daughter returned home last week from a visit to Mrs. V. S. Taylor in Portsmouth, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. Jno. E. Buckingham of Ashland.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Fannin, who have been spending the last few months in Arizona and other Western states, returned to Paintsville last week. They report a pleasant trip. Beecher Stapleton, formerly connected with the Paintsville Bank & Trust Co., but now a candidate for the nomination for County Judge, is able to be out after a few weeks illness at his home at Manila. Mr. Stapleton resigned from the bank to make the race for County Judge.

Misses Elizabeth Buckingham and Leona Auxier were in Ashland the guests of Miss Venus Buckingham. Miss Buckingham spent her Easter vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. E. Buckingham and visiting Paintsville the last of the week.

PRESTONSBURG

Rose-Nunnery.

March 22, Mrs. Maude Rose and Mr. Sherman Nunnery, after procuring license from the County Court Clerk's office, went quietly and secretly to the home of Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Hart where they were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony by Rev. Hart. Mrs. Rose is the talented and cultured daughter of Mrs. Belle C. Gardner and is now engaged as teacher of music in the graded school of Prestonsburg. Mr. Nunnery is one of our city's best business men, and is engaged in the mercantile business in Prestonsburg. After the ceremony the bride returned to her own home and the groom returned to his, no one revealing the secret until the Monday following. They will make their future home at the residence of Mr. Nunnery on Court street.

Whitaker Harris.

On March 26, Miss Susie Whitaker and Mr. Frank Harris were married at the home of the bride on Middle Creek. The bride is the daughter of Policeman Lee Whitaker of West Prestonsburg, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Harris, of Trimble street. Rev. C. C. Hyden officiated.

Contract Letting Postponed.

The letting of a contract for the street construction advertised for Mar. 25 has been postponed to April 15, at the request of prospective bidders, including a Louisville concern that had not had opportunity to advise itself of the details of the work and contract. Four contractors had representatives present, and city officials anticipate that more will be heard from at the letting in April.

Local and Personal.

Miss Elizabeth Scott of Danville spent the latter part of last week in this city the guest of her sister, Mrs. Walter Scott Harkins, Jr. Grady Sellards, son of J. H. Sellards and Taggett Allen, son of S. E. Allen, who are attending the Kentucky State University at Lexington, spent Easter Sunday at home.

The ladies of the Ladies Aid Society of the M. E. Church South will entertain the ladies of the Young Ladies Guild of that church in celebration of the cancellation of the debt on the church piano through the guild.

Hon. W. R. McCoy, attorney of Inez, was here on business Saturday. He visited while here his mother-in-law, Mrs. Miranda Marra of Front street. Frank Friend, aged 13, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Friend of Second street who had been confined to his bed for the past three weeks with double pneumonia, is much improved.

Mrs. L. S. Moles returned Tuesday from Cincinnati, Ohio, where she has been spending a few days shopping and visiting friends.—Citizen.

Lester Frazier, of Fort Gay, W. Va., who was shot in the affray on the 27th ult., is slightly improved.

CATLETTSBURG

Big Jail Delivery.

A big jail delivery occurred about 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning. Jailer Ball had arisen during the night and made the rounds of the jail several times. About 11:30 he had gone thru the jail and found things alright, but at 1:30 he again went into the jail and when he reached the up stairs eight men, all white, had just made their escape and he intercepted a negro just in time to prevent his escape. They have not yet been apprehended. All were charged with felonies. In all there are about 25 prisoners in jail.

Remains of World War Veteran Brought Here.

The remains of B. Stewart, son of Milt Stewart, formerly of East Fork of Garner, now of Logan, W. Va., were brought here Saturday, and on Sunday morning were taken to the old home at Garner for interment. Young Stewart went over as a volunteer early in the war and was killed in battle more than three years ago. His father was at the station and when he beheld the flag-draped casket with the soldier escort he collapsed.

Handsome Girl Arrives.

A fine daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Burgess at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cassell Saturday. Mrs. Burgess is a sister of Mrs. Cassell and she and her husband are a prominent young couple of Richardson, Ky., but have been living at Chapman, where Mr. Burgess is telegraph operator for the C. & O. Dr. O. K. Bond and Dr. A. C. Bond are uncles of the proud young father.

Col. N. Starkey Dead.

Col. Nardy Starkey of Pikeville who was taken to Louisville some time ago for treatment, died there on Sunday. His remains were taken to Somerset his old home, for interment. Col. Starkey is well known throughout Kentucky. He founded the Kentucky Home Telephone Company in Pikeville in 1902. He leaves a wife and several sisters and brothers to mourn his loss.

Local and Personal.

Miss Ann Hager who has been the guest of her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Holla Greene, in Ashland, returned to her home in Lexington. She had a most delightful visit and enjoyed a number of social affairs that were given in her honor.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Hensley have returned from Sunrise, Ind., where they have been visiting his daughter, Mrs. S. F. See. They made the trip in their new Willys Knight car.

Judge E. E. Triplett, judge of the Circuit Court of Pikeville, was here Sunday with friends and on business. W. W. Barrett, county attorney of Pikeville, was in Ashland Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Burke of Pikeville were in Ashland Sunday.

E. E. Shannon and L. T. McClure, were prominent Louisville people here last of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wall and baby daughter Betty, of Pikeville, now are in Ashland and will be with Mrs. Wall's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Shaut.

Mrs. Wall's complete recovery after months of illness of typhoid fever in Huntington is the source of very real happiness to her host of friends throughout the tri-state region.

John Hatcher and children, Raymond and Julia Emily, have returned home to Ashland after spending three months in Yuma, Arizona. The trip west was made for the health of Master Raymond, who has improved wonderfully by the change of climate.

Mrs. Maude Marcum Walton is here from Louisville visiting and looking after business matters for a few days. She has spent the winter in Louisville with her sister, Mrs. Blanche Minna, who has for a long time been taking treatment at Pope's Sanatorium. Mrs. Minna is improving rapidly in health and will return home in May.

Mr. Fon Rogers has been a recent guest at the home of his brother, Mr. Lon Rogers, in Ashland, en route from western Kentucky to his home in Pikeville.

PIKEVILLE

New Hotel.

James Hatcher has returned from Florida in excellent health. He says he will soon begin construction of a fine hotel of 125 rooms on Main street, south of the court house.

Hospital.

A company is being organized to build a \$50,000 hospital here.

Dr. A. T. Ratcliff and Miss Mary Clarke were married by Dr. J. F. Record. Dr. Ratcliff is a successful dentist and the bride has been connected with the Sowards Insurance office for some time.

Throwing a Monkey Wrench Into the Machinery

Allowing eye-disorders to go without correction is much the same as throwing a monkey wrench into the machinery. Often serious damage is wrought to

THE EYES

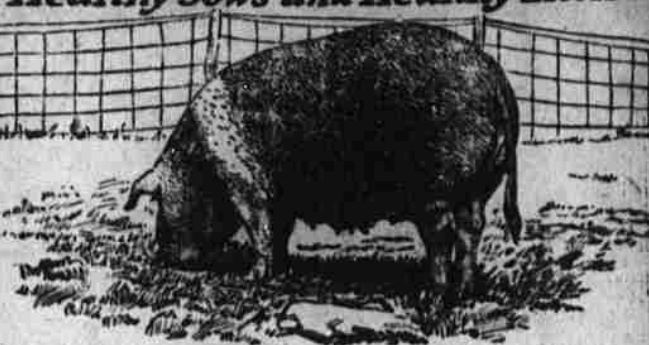
by such carelessness or neglect. An examination by our expert oculist, who is also a registered physician, will often reveal such disorders and make possible their correction before too late. Don't wait. See us at once.

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WAYNE ITEMS

Miss Bess Marcum of Ceredo, spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. Fisher Scaggs.

Dorsey Ketchum of Westmoreland, was the guest of his sister, Mrs. G. R. Burgess.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rucker and little son returned Tuesday from a visit with relatives in Huntington.

Homor Borton of Lavalette, was here on business Monday.

Allen Shrewsbury was in front on business last week.

Mrs. Jim Henaley of Buffalo Creek is visiting relatives here this week.

Misses Virginia Cyrus and Mildred Ferguson of Kenova were week-end guests of Miss Lucille Ferguson.

Miss Mildred Smith of Marshall College spent Sunday with home folks.

Miss Jessie Romans of Kenova visited Miss Pauline Smith last week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wilcox of Huntington were guests of Miss Nell Taylor Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. A. W. Damron has returned from a visit with Ceredo relatives.

Miss Gladys Smith of Ceredo spent Saturday and Sunday with Miss Splice Adkins.

D. B. Hardwick was in Kenova on business the first of the week.

Fisher Scaggs is confined to his room with a severe attack of tonsillitis. Mr. and Mrs. George Ross are visiting relatives at Logan.

A. O. Willes and family moved to their new home in Westmoreland last week. F. W. Terrill now occupies the house vacated by them.

Garnet Bruce of Logan is spending a few days with his mother.

Chester Rife of Kenova visited relatives here last week.

Miss Sarah Rigg of Ceredo was the guest of Miss Mildred Taylor last week.

T. J. Stringer of Huntington attended county court here Monday.

Harry Bloss of Lavalette was a visitor here last week.

The play "Not So Bad After All" given here Thursday night by pupils of the Ceredo-Kenova high school was largely attended and was well worth attending for it was full of laughter from beginning to end.

Mrs. Fisher Scaggs was hostess to the E. C. S. Club on Saturday evening. This being the covered dish party, the men folks were asked and an enjoy-

able program was rendered, after which refreshments were served to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Taylor, Mrs. D. B. Hardwick, Mrs. G. R. Burgess, Mrs. Edna Adkins, Miss Nell Taylor, Chapman Allen, Miss Bess Marcum, Lawrence Thompson. GIMES.

MOUNTAIN STORY WINS PRIZE.

The prize offered by the "National Literary Bureau of Mammoth, Mo." for the best short story, was awarded to Miss Blanche C. Preston, of Pike county, Ky.

This prize winning story is typical of the mountains, and deals with both characters and conditions, prevalent in the mountains of Kentucky. In reviewing this M. S. S. one editor issued the following statement:

"You cannot read Miss Preston's work without being carried to the mountains by the force of her vivid imagination, and her powerful personality. You seem to breathe the pure air of the hills and hear the sound of the breeze among the trees as you read her graphic description of the scenes pictured in her story. She writes as one who knows and loves the mountains; therefore her language is both simple and natural. But her strongest points lies in the characters she uses, and the strength of the plots developed."

Miss Preston is well known in literary fields, where her success and popularity as a short story writer have given her a prominent place, besides being a successful business woman.

ROBERT E. LEE

Known as the JOHN BARKER JACK Black Warrior and Black Spanish, will make the stand at Millard Wellman's at the Forks of Little Blaine at the Carl Bussey place.

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To insure a living colt \$8.00.

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